

# THE WAR.

## Important News from Washington.

### Interview Between the President and a Committee of the Maryland Legislature.

### The First Aggressive Movement of the Government.

### The New York Zouaves and Sixth Massachusetts Regiments Ordered to Alexandria.

### Enterprise of the Seventy-first Regiment in Chesapeake Bay.

### Interesting Letter from the Seat of War.

### Virtual Defeat of the Secessionists in the Maryland Legislature.

### ARRIVAL OF THE DANIEL WEBSTER

### Three Southern Privateers Cruising in the Gulf.

### NEWS FROM MONTGOMERY.

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### THE MESSAGE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS.

### MILITARY MOVEMENTS IN THE METROPOLIS.

### IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.

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### WHAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS DONE.

### THE COMMISSIONER OF THE REBELLIOUS STATES TO FRANCE.

### VISITORS TO WEST POINT ACADEMY.

### MAJOR ANDERSON'S RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON.

### INTERVIEW BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1861.

The committee of the Maryland Legislature, in its interview with the President this morning, admitted that the right and power of the government to bring troops through Baltimore or the State, and to take any measures for the public safety when, in the discretion of the President, might be demanded either by actual or reasonably apprehended exigencies. They expressed their belief that no immediate effort at secession or resistance of the Federal authority would be attempted by the Legislature or State authorities, and asked that, in this view, the State should, as long as possible, be spared the evils of a military occupation or a mere revenging chastisement for former transgressions.

The President replied that their suggestions and representations should be considered, but that he could not say more than that the public interests, and not any spirit of revenge, would dictate his measures.

### CONDITION OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1861.

The Seventy-first New York regiment was ordered to the Navy Yard last evening for three months' service, and longer if necessary. This looks like work.

The steamer used as a gunboat, with a detachment of the Seventy-first on board, captured a small schooner, laden with provisions, and put her under the guns of the frigate Cumberland, off Norfolk. No resistance was made.

The Seventh regiment of New York is now very comfortable camp. The weather is fine, the accommodations ample, the situation pleasant, the food plenty and good, and all enjoy themselves highly. To-morrow the camp will be on exhibition, and the men have invited their friends to come out and pay visits.

Our firemen Zouaves do not conduct themselves very well. Hackmen and stage drivers, street-sweepers, and people generally complain of being swarmed. People say they take what they want and pay what they please, and draw kicks from them freely. Several were arrested yesterday. It must be understood that only a few Zouaves are thus implicated, and that they will soon be weeded out of the corps. Col. Elsworth publishes the following card—

Will you do me the favor to state that the regiment of Zouaves was recruited in great haste, and we could not avoid taking some men who were not of the best quality. A few of these men have been conducting themselves in a disgraceful manner, and I am sorry to say as a favor, if in future all persons who have been in any way annoyed by any of the Zouaves, will please inform me, so that I may be able to remove them from the regiment, and prevent them from being a source of annoyance to the community.

Several Zouaves were out of quarters last night, and are being hunted up by armed guards. The men feel badly that the whole regiment should be blamed on account of a few bad men. They say they have been only too kindly treated here. The people are too much afraid of them. All are in good health, and eager to fight. They say that they were almost afraid to come here because the climate was said to be so bad, but don't see much difference from New York, and think Washington a very nice village. None are allowed outside of the Capitol except with passes.

The Sixty-ninth regiment are ordered out to George town this evening, and will quarter at the College there. They took plentiful supplies of provisions and stores.

The Sixty-ninth don't know what has become of their baggage, and are none too well provided for here.

The Twelfth New York regiment, Colonel Butterfield, late Orderly Sergeant of the Cassin M. Clay Guard, have been working bravely for the last few days, preparing camp quarters in Franklin square, a beautiful spot, preparatory to entering upon the labor of actual service. The first regiment that took the three months' drill was the Massachusetts Sixth, and all the other Massachusetts regiments have done the same thing.

Colonel Butterfield, of the Twelfth, has telegraphed for arms and equipments. His regiment needs every thing. The fleet of property, with three regiments of the New Jersey troops on board, not having arrived here, there is a naturally considerable speculation. It is not unlikely that they are either intended for Baltimore or Norfolk.

The Massachusetts Fifth regiment, Lieut. Col. Greese commanding, paraded in the East Capitol grounds this afternoon. They went through the drill practices in the actual service, which was unusually severe in consequence of the condition of the ground. A large number of spectators were present, and admired their fine appearance and soldierlike bearing. They attracted great attention as they marched up the avenue to the Treasury building, where they were ordered to halt, from the fact that they were dressed in a column of attack, which is an unusual sight in our streets.

It is not generally known that the battalion of Massachusetts Rifles, which sailed with sealed orders from Annapolis, went to reinforce Fort McHenry. Two or three days ago General Scott wrote to General Butler, asking him how long it would take to have the Sixth ready. General Butler said, "Three days." General Butler replied that he would have them there to-morrow in time for morning prayers, to which General Scott laughingly rejoined that these volunteers were getting almost as bad as regulars.

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was secured by the latter that it was his desire to grant Major Anderson a pension on account of his wounds, as he was poor, but more especially in view of the fact that he had performed under the most trying circumstances, and the President remarked that he should not change that determination, unless some extraordinary military necessity should demand the valuable experience of Major Anderson. The latter expressed his gratification at the interview with Mr. Lincoln, in the course of which he took occasion to compliment the President for the wise policy the administration pursued relative to the present perplexing difficulties in the nation, and especially with reference to the affairs at Charleston, in view of the embarrassments it has encountered in assuming the responsibilities of government.

### COAST DEFENSES—MAJORS-GENERAL OF THE ARMY.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1861.

Gov. Andrew has notified the Secretary of the Navy that Massachusetts has purchased the splendid, substantial and swift steamer Massachusetts and South Carolina, recently employed as packet between Boston and Charleston; that they are thoroughly equipped, manned with experienced and brave men, and are ready for sea and any government service. Gov. Andrew asks for authority to commission commanders. The Secretary of the Navy nor the President, has such authority. They can only be received in the service as auxiliary to the navy, and must be commanded by a regularly commissioned naval officer. If they are not so employed, they will be used by the State to ply within Massachusetts waters, to protect the commerce of that State against the pirates.

As considerable has been said upon the subject of commissioning new Major-General in the army, I will state, authoritatively, that the President is unable to create any such office without authority from Congress, there being no existing law authorizing him to exercise such power.

The steamer Cambridge is hourly expected up the Potomac, with the entire camp equipment of the Massachusetts regiments. General Butler has tendered the use of the same to the War Department, to be distributed as General Scott may determine. That belonging to the Massachusetts Fifth regiment will be used for the immediate equipment of Colonel Elsworth's Zouaves, in order that he may be set to work. War of something to do has been a chief aim of them to be not a little rule. A few of them will be sent home for acts of insubordination that cannot be overlooked.

Francis P. Blair, Jr., received notice some days since, from the secessionists about Silver Springs, that his house would be set on fire if he did not leave the vicinity. The plucky old gentleman immediately notified them in return that there would be two parties to that bargain, removed his family to this city, and prepared for a vigorous defence, by arming his servants to the teeth.

The appointment of the so-called Military Board of Safety, composed of rabid secessionists, by the Maryland Legislature, has produced intense dissatisfaction in this State. Indignation meetings have been held in Baltimore.

The Secretary of the Navy has sent an armed vessel to Alexandria, to protect the Potomac fishermen from Washington and Georgetown.

The comparative excitement in New York and Washington may be judged from the fact that there all public work is suspended, and here four hundred men are at work on the aqueduct, and labor upon the reservoir will be immediately begun.

### THE LATEST REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1861.

The military movements demonstrated upon by the administration within the last forty-eight hours, and detailed in today's dispatches to the Herald, clearly show that decisive blows will be struck immediately after the expiration of the twenty days granted to the rebels to lay down their arms.

It is evident, indeed, that not only will the direct route from the North to Washington be reopened, but also, an unobstructed navigation of the Potomac be secured at all hazards.

The withdrawal of the Virginia troops from Alexandria indicates that General Lee has got wind of the intended military demonstrations on the right bank of the Potomac, and that he is concentrating all available troops near Richmond, in expectation of an attack upon that city.

The two regiments organized by the Union men in North-western Kentucky were formally accepted by the Secretary of War. They will be commanded by W. G. Ferrell, formerly editor of the Lafayette (Indiana) Journal, and now a resident of Kentucky, and J. V. Guthrie, a relative of ex-Secretary Guthrie. The regiments are now encamped opposite Cincinnati, and they will be forthwith mustered into service and dispatched to this point at an early moment.

The Twenty-fifth regiment was sworn into the United States service in the Capitol grounds this evening. During the ceremony a highly exciting scene occurred, about ten private supporters of the ranks and refused to take the oath. Such a hissing and booing as broke forth from the remainder of the regiment upon seeing their recreancy was never heard before. The outbreak of indignation was so intense that several of the refractory members at once returned to the ranks, and took the oath under the folds of the Stars and Stripes. The remaining recreants will be ignominiously drummed out of the regiment.

The Committee appointed by the Maryland Legislature for the purpose of opening peace negotiations with the President arrived here to-day. They might have saved themselves the trouble of coming here. The military movements about being executed will plainly show the intentions of the government in regard to treacherous Maryland.

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1861.

The Kentucky delegation, that came here to offer the services of two regiments to the government, resolved to-night to request the Secretary of War to authorize the formation of a brigade, and place Major Anderson in command.

The Mayor of Washington has issued a proclamation, requiring all drap shops to be closed after half-past nine o'clock in the evening. The drunken excesses of some of the volunteers has rendered this measure necessary.

A few days will develop a new military demonstration, to be commanded by Colonel Lander. I was mistaken in naming Colonel Lander's wife as the disinterested lady who volunteered her services in the army hospital at the Capitol. It is the Colonel's sister, Miss Louisa Lander, the distinguished sculptress, who was in Europe during the Italian wars, and appreciated the wants of our sick soldiers from personal observation abroad.

The attempt of several writers from Washington to misrepresent the real facts concerning the destruction of government property at Norfolk is exceedingly unjust to the Secretary of the Navy. The record, which at the proper time will be made public, will show that the proper efforts of the Federal authorities to secure the government property was disappointed and opposed by the traitorous officials in power in the yard. When it was first discovered that the yard was in danger, the Merrimack was found to be in an impossible condition for service. It was in a hopeless condition. This fact being reported to Secretary Welles, the latter ordered Engineer-in-Chief Isherwood to proceed at once with a sufficient force to put her in moving condition. This order was executed, but when an attempt was made by the Commodore of the yard to haul the vessel out, the secessionists surrounded him and prevented the execution of the order.

The authorities of the yard then ordered the vessel to be sunk, being satisfied that otherwise they would fall into the hands of the traitors. Commodore Building arrived at the yard in the evening, and understanding the true state of things, also set fire to the ships, that they might not prove valuable if raised. The attempt to blow up the dock was a failure, the slow match failing to burn.

About four hundred men, with two hundred horses, have been employed on the railroad works in this city. Most of the principal engaged upon the works, Chief Engineer Myers, four of his assistants, Captain Briggs, corresponding clerk; and Mr. Rivers, whom Captain Myers left in charge of the Capitol when he went to Fort Pickens, have all seceded, gone South and joined the traitors. Complaints have been made that the four hundred men referred to above originally were organized into four companies by Myers, and that they were disloyal, and being taken

at present, the direct road leading to the public works, and on the canal the canal, were entirely engaged in bad business. Accordingly Secretary Cameron issued an order to-day to Captain Meigs to disband and disperse the four companies named, and to see to it that the horses and other property belonging to the government did not fall into their hands. This order was promptly executed.

The twenty days granted to the rebels to lay down their arms will expire to-morrow, when the picket guards of the rebels will be driven in on the Virginia side of the Long Bridge, and the secession flag which has been waving within telegraphic sight of the White House at Alexandria for several days, will be struck or captured by some of the gallant troops who are anxious to take the contest.

Major Anderson will be promoted to the position of Brigadier-General in the Army.

### THE PLOT OF THE SECESSIONISTS IN THE MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

FREDERICK, May 4, 1861.

The Senate has been in session since three P. M. The friends of the Military Board Bill have determined to put it through to-night. Protests against the bill are pouring in from all parts of the State, and the Senators warned by their constituents not to vote, and even hanging is threatened. Its enforcement is to be resisted by the bayonet. The Union men are preparing to meet the mob. Its passage by the House is doubtful.

There is nothing from Frederick this morning. Private parties profess to have information of the defeat of the Public Safety bill in the Senate. It is also reported that the Union men of Frederick threaten violence to the members of the Legislature if they attempt to pass the bill. The sentiment in this city is very generally against the measure.

RAINFALL, May 4, 1861.

In the Maryland Senate to-day the bill providing for a Committee of Public Safety met with such resistance that it was finally recommitted. The Union men consider it as good as lost. The Union feeling is evidently gaining ground throughout the State.

RAINFALL, May 4, 1861.

The recommendation of the Safety Committee bill is regarded here as equivalent to killing it. Intelligence from the secession counties of the State indicate a strong revolution in popular feeling against secession, and the members are urged not to press the measure at present.

The Union men in the city are jubilant. McKim and Gordon of Allegheny, and Hockett, of Cecil county, leading secessionists, have left Frederick for home, fearing violence from the Union men. They are believed to be in equal danger from their constituents.

A mass meeting will be held here on Monday afternoon. From Peter Cockey, of Cockeysville, I learn that this morning the government employees, numbering nearly a hundred carpenters and laborers, had repaired the bridge on the Northern Central Road as far as Burnside, and would have the road reopened to Cockeysville by Sunday, and all the bridges rebuilt by Tuesday or Wednesday. The workmen were unaccompanied by troops—the people of Baltimore county being all friendly, and aiding them all they can. The secession sentiment is killed out between this city and the Pennsylvania line.

The present indications are, that when the Pennsylvania troops arrive, they will leave the cars at the edge of the city and march round the outside, a distance of three miles to cars on the Baltimore and Ohio Road, and thence to Washington, unless prominent Union men here think it perfectly safe to march through the city.

But few vessels are arriving, and very few clearing for Northern ports. Three valuable cargoes arrived since Wednesday, and finding no market, left for New York and Philadelphia without breaking bulk.

All except four companies of the State militia in the city are discharged from duty by order of the police, because it was believed that they could not now be made available to accomplish secession, and the cost is too great for purposes of show.

Two thousand rifles from Harper's Ferry, forwarded by the Virginia authorities to the secession leaders here, are a mistake. They are limited by one member of the Police Board to be used in the possession, but it is denied by the others. It is said they will be returned to the United States Government.

No New York papers are received to-night. The rider of the Pony Express states that government has taken all steamers, so that there is no communication by water from Havre de Grace to here. The steamer Lancaster is lying at Fort Deposit, and passengers are offering high rates to be carried to Baltimore, but refused.

Saw fell here for three hours this morning.

FREDERICK, May 4, 1861.

The Safety or Military bill is withdrawn. The outside pressure against it was too strong. The people of Washington county were armed, and wanted to break up the Legislature. The public excitement now is abating. It is not probable now that the Legislature will call a convention.

### UNION REJOICING IN CUMBERLAND.

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There is great rejoicing here over the defeat of the Public Safety Bill. Processions and other demonstrations are being made.

### UNION REJOICINGS IN HAGERSTOWN.

HAGERSTOWN, May 4, 1861.

There is great rejoicing here over the success of the Union ticket at the special election for members of the Legislature. Perry, Union candidate, has a majority of over 4,000. Processions and bonfires are the order of the evening.

### REPORTS FROM BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, May 4, 1861.

Accounts from the Northern Central road say that work men are actively engaged in repairing the bridge, and meet with no opposition. The inhabitants, on the contrary, are rejoiced at the speedy reopening of communication.

A town Union meeting will be held on Monday.

The steamer Lancaster, which has been making the connection between Baltimore and Havre de Grace, has been seized on the Susquehanna by the government.

No mail has arrived here to-night.

There is not a word of truth in the despatch from Baltimore, published in the New York Times to-day, stating that the despatches from Frederick to the Associated Press are furnished by a secessionist. Neither is there any truth in the statement that they are furnished by an attack of the Baltimore Sun.

### REPORTS FROM PERRYVILLE.

PERRYVILLE, May 4, 1861.

The steamer John Warner has arrived from Annapolis. She left there this morning. There are thirty thousand troops in Washington, including some Pennsylvania regiments just arrived.

Our troops will take possession of Alexandria to-morrow. There is a small force of secessionists there, but they keep concealed.

The Pennsylvania troops passed through Baltimore last night, and are now in Washington.

The American flag now floats over Havre de Grace. The people there are friendly to Union.

The steamer Maryland left to-day for Annapolis, with eight cars loaded with coal and beams of lumber on her upper deck.

A transport, just arrived from Annapolis, reports passing a fleet of sixteen steamboats, loaded with New Jersey troops.

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ARRIVAL OF THE DANIEL WEBSTER—Three Privateers Cruising in the Gulf—Attempts to Seize the Daniel Webster, &c.

The steamer Daniel Webster, Thomas Minor commanding, from the mouth of the Mississippi via Havana, with passengers and her outward freight for New